

UTILITY BOARD MAY RAISE D.C. PHONE RATES

Company's Attorneys to Ask \$7,000,000 Capitalization Be Added to Valuation.

By BILL PRICE.

Telephone rates may soar after the Public Utilities Commission concludes the telephone hearings which will begin Monday morning in the District Building.

"There ain't going to be no such thing" as lower rates if the lawyers for the telephone company are able to sustain the doleful figures they will present, showing that the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company, of the District, is not at present earning one penny of return upon its legitimate valuation.

Under these rates the telephone patron who has an unlimited service in his residence is paying \$5 per month, when he formerly paid \$4, at the beginning of the war. Proportionately the same increase is in effect on all telephone users in the District—Government, commercial, private.

Asked Rate in 1917. November 30, 1917, the local company applied to the Public Utilities Commission for increase of existing rates, claiming severe financial losses.

His proposition was based upon the fact that he could install automatic apparatus that would save large sums of money paid out to operators. Mr. Burleson had charge of all the country's telephones for about thirteen months. Affairs in the local office went on about the same as before, and there has been little talk for a long time about automatics.

During the control of telephones and telegraphs Mr. Burleson increased telephone rates throughout the country something like 35 per cent. By act of Congress the lines were returned to their owners August 1 last, with the provision that the rates then in force should continue four months, carrying them to December 1.

Board Orders Hearings. The District Public Utilities Commission on its own initiative recently ordered hearings to determine whether the former rates are to be restored on December 1, or what changes, if any, will be made.

The local company is to be represented at the hearings by T. P. Syllan, assistant to the president of the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company, C. & P., and R. V. Mayne, general counsel, both familiar figures at local telephone hearings.

The data to be presented by the company was not available today, but high officials state that it will be shown that the present rates are entirely insufficient to pay any return at all upon the valuations of the properties here and that unless the rates are increased the company will not get the 6 per cent return which the Utilities Commission is allowing other utilities.

Valuations Also Involved. To a considerable extent the hearings about to be held will also involve valuation of the properties of the C. & P., inasmuch as the commission will fix rates to be charged upon the valuations determined.

The attorneys for the company will make claims for large capitalization expenditures since their original valuation was fixed by the commission on May 2, 1917, just about at the beginning of the war with Germany.

HEARTILY GIVE TO HEALTHILY LIVE



Haskell Coffin, the artist of the above poster, has embodied in his subject the girl whom every soldier, sailor and marine learned to revere. Whether as a nurse, a welfare worker, a searcher or a canteener the Red Cross Girl was ever ready to attend to their wants and comfort.

Now that peace has been declared her work is still not done. Several hundred thousand men were discharged from the army and navy, disabled. Thousands of them are at home and under the care of Home Service sections. Many are still in the hospitals and are ministered to by her. She is helping them back to health and she asks your aid.

Enlist now in the Third Red Cross Roll Call as a worker for the drive to be held November 2-11.

SUBSCRIBE \$20,000 IN RED CROSS DRIVE

Five Hundred Soldiers Expected to Canvass City in Campaign.

Approval of the progress made in organizing the campaign for the Red Cross Thanksgiving Roll Call, which starts tomorrow and lasts until November 11, to enroll additional members, was given by Thomas Bell, chairman of the executive committee, at a meeting of the committee members in headquarters of the drive yesterday afternoon at 1719 H street northwest.

It was reported that \$20,000 of the \$100,000 fund, which has been named as Washington's quota to complete the war-time program of the Red Cross, has been subscribed by the larger contributors of last year's funds, only \$80,000 remains to be subscribed.

BUREAU WORKERS GIVE WATCH TO REDFIELD

As a token of esteem, bureau chiefs and members of the Secretary's office force in the Department of Commerce this morning presented Secretary Redfield with a gold watch. Yesterday was Secretary Redfield's last day in office. Today he is a private citizen.

The presentation speech was made by Edward F. Sweet, assistant to Mr. Redfield and now acting secretary of the Department of Commerce. The presentation was made in front of the building and gave their former chief a rousing cheer as he drove away just before 9 a. m.

PRESIDENT IS TO NAME RECENT BOARD SOON

Julius E. Peyser, Charles J. Columbus, and Capt. Gerald Eagan Among Possibilities.

Nominations of the three members of the newly created Rent Commission of the District of Columbia will be sent to the Senate next week by President Wilson, who has taken this matter up as one of pressing importance in view of conditions in the Capital relating to continued controversies as to leases and inability of Government employees and others to obtain satisfactory housing accommodations.

More than 200 names have been put before him for consideration, but the number has been cut down to a possible score of logical possibilities because of his indisposition and he is about ready to announce his choice.

Varied Advice Sought. Advice of varied interests has been sought in the process of elimination in connection with canvassing the qualifications of the many candidates.

Representatives of civic, labor, realty, women and municipal groups have been asked for counsel in the matter, as the President is desirous of having an efficient commission which will guard the welfare of all shades of citizenship.

Among the many names before the President is that of Julius S. Peyser, lawyer and banker, who is by no means an "active" applicant to the troubles in store. His experience during the war with the housing problem makes him a prominent candidate for peace-time activities along the same line, but there is no intimation that he has been offered an appointment.

Charles J. Columbus, secretary of the Merchants' and Manufacturers' Association, is another outstanding candidate as a result of his diverse activities in civic matters.

He was an industrious worker in the many "drives" in war times, and has the confidence of business men generally, and of close administrative officials, and is known to know the needs of the Capital.

ORDERS RELEASE OF GIRL NUMMERS

After spending a night at the House of Detention, two of the four girls, arrested by the women's bureau of the police department last night for masquerading in army uniforms, were ordered released this morning by Ralph Given, assistant United States District Attorney.

Mr. Given held that the law governing the wearing of the army uniform did not contemplate prosecutions for using the uniforms on occasions such as Halloween. "There would be as much sense in arresting actors for wearing the uniform on the stage, for even that is a technical violation," it was pointed out.

Interior of Palatial Aerial Limousine, Now in Capital



An interior view of the palatial Curtiss eight-passenger biplane "Eagle", which arrived in Washington yesterday for a demonstration of the possibilities of a machine designed purely for commercial purposes. It is said to be the most efficient and best equipped passenger-carrying plane ever built.

JR. C. U. A. M. RENEW FIGHT ON YUNG KWAI

Society Plan Formal Protest of Chinese Boy as Cadet Captain.

The demolition of 'Yung Kwai, Chinese captain in the Central High School Cadet Corps, to private will be asked in a formal protest to the Board of Education by the Junior Order of United American Mechanics, a patriotic organization of 1,700 men to be presented next week.

If the board refuses to take further action in the case of this young Chinese, son of the consul to the Chinese embassy, the local order will appeal to the national legislative committee of their organization which claims 300,000 members. Judge John H. Noyes, chairman of committee, will be asked to take the matter to Congress.

Maurice Peabody, a member of the committee appointed to investigate the case of the Chinese being made captain, made this statement yesterday: "Our order is strongly opposed to the appointment of Kwai as captain. We do not object to him being a private in the cadet corps, but we do not want him to be an officer over American boys."

"We have learned he is well up in his studies, is a good cadet, but why should we go to China to obtain cadet officers? Are not our American boys good enough?"

Opposed As Oriental. "The junior order does not disfavor Chinese going to school here. We are glad that the country is giving them an education. But we do not believe these men should be brought here to teach American boys. We oppose Kwai because he is an Oriental."

"This order is not going to stop until some action is taken. We are determined."

The Board of Education has not officially notified the order that the appointment of Kwai has been upheld.

A meeting of Reno, the largest council of the order in the city, will be held in Masonic Temple, Twentieth and G streets early this morning, next Monday night and will decide what definite action to take in this matter.

A committee has been investigating for the last week. The committee comprises Maurice Peabody, John Haggitt, George Burlingame, Joseph Smithson, William P. Stout and A. C. Columbus.

ORDER AGAINST BOX LUNCHES TO STAND

The Board of District Commissioners has refused to recede from its position regarding the sale of box lunches on public highways, despite the fact that one hundred and fifty protests were received from citizens. The Commissioners said "that so far as the sale of the Liberty lunches to Government clerks, the superintendents of the various Government buildings and institutions could arrange for the sale of such lunches within their buildings."

WALKED RIGHT IN

Despite Order That D. C. Commissioners Must Not Be Pestered.

THERE WAS A REASON

Mr. Lusby, the Privileged Gentleman, Had Pay Checks—Welcomed.

There's a rule at the District Building that there shall be no outside interruptions when the Board of Commissioners are in executive session.

Four men were waiting to see the Commissioners yesterday and tried in vain to convince Commissioner Brownlow's messenger to break in on the meeting. But their efforts were without success.

Just a few minutes later James R. Lusby, district officer, entered the outside office of the Commissioner. He held in his hands three pay checks, one for each Commissioner.

For some reason or other which hasn't yet been learned Mr. Lusby was admitted with open arms to the sanctum sanctorum. Those waiting could not understand how easily Mr. Lusby got into the meeting.

HOLD INQUEST IN AUTO DEATH TODAY

An inquest will be held today over the body of Elmer Uperton, seven years old, 19 K street northwest, who was struck by an automobile, said by the police to have been operated by Harvey Dawson, 725 Sixth street southwest, at North Capitol and K streets, last night and almost instantly killed.

The child was running across K street when the automobile, which was going east, struck him. He was picked up and taken to Sibley Hospital, where he was pronounced dead. Five persons were injured last night when the automobile in which they were riding skidded on Conduit near New Cut roads, and overturned. The machine, according to the police, was operated by Fred Buchholz, of the Occidental Hotel. Thomas McKale, 49 Quincy Place northeast, received lacerations on the forehead; Mildred Morrison, 1120 New Hampshire avenue, laceration on left ankle; Mary W. Cornwell, 1214 Massachusetts avenue, left arm broken; Elizabeth Jenkins, 639 Sixth street northwest, injuries to the left shoulder. Buchholz received a cut on the nose.

The injured were taken to the Emergency Hospital.

Fred M. Jones, thirty-eight years old, of 236 Fourteenth street northeast, was struck by a street car at Ninth and G streets early this morning and suffered injuries to his leg. He was sent to his home.

While alighting from a street car on the approach to the Highway Bridge last night, Robert Winkley, twenty-one years old, of Company F, Sixty-third infantry, Potomac Park, fell to the ground and received injuries to the head. He was taken to Infantry Hospital at Potomac Park.

Meeting—National Genealogical Society, at home of Miss Cora C. Curry, 1020 Montross street northwest, 8 p. m.

105 YEARS IN JAIL

METED TO ROBBERS

Justice Stafford Denies Clemency to All But Two of Thirteen Prisoners.

Refusing probation in all but two cases, Justice Stafford, presiding in Criminal Court No. 2, today imposed sentences aggregating 105 years in the penitentiary on thirteen prisoners, twelve of whom were colored, and one white.

A plea of probation being submitted to the court in most cases, Justice Stafford, in refusing them, said: "I don't believe there is anything to these violent hold-ups and sentences in the penitentiary."

These criminals may as well understand that when they commit these outrages and that when they are caught and brought to justice they will receive their full punishment."

Robert Johnson, Earl Carter, Richard Joshua, and Clarence Pool, colored, received ten years each in the penitentiary for breaking into the store of Abe Silverman July 21 last and taking the cash register and \$140.

James Teney, John Groom, and Charles Taber, three young colored men, were sentenced to serve ten years each in the penitentiary for robbery.

Harvey Daw, white, will have to serve ten years in the penitentiary for assault with a dangerous weapon in connection with shooting on October 16, 1918, his sister, Mrs. Effie L. Landale, James Graham Stephenson, colored, received a five-year penitentiary sentence for stealing on March 31 last \$50 from Frank Thomas. Robert Chapman, colored, was sentenced to serve five years in the penitentiary for shooting on May 2 last Michael Johnson. Walter Moore, colored, received a ten year penitentiary sentence for holding up and stealing on April 13 last, from Wm. H. Welty, a watch and a Library.

Conway W. Lewis, colored, has to serve five years in the penitentiary for shooting on March 26 last John M. Horton. Arnold N. Thomas, colored, was sentenced to one year for assault with a dangerous weapon. Robert Banks and Louis Borders, two colored soldiers, convicted of robbery, were put on parole, their attorney, A. W. Scott, submitting to the court their good records on the field of battle and making an urgent plea to have them put on probation. Justice Stafford commented on their services to the country and released them on the promise that they would replace the money they stole.

CLAYTON TO TALK ON PHONE RATES

Important matters are to be discussed at the meeting of the Federation of Citizens Associations in the board room of the District Building at 8 o'clock tonight.

Election of officers for the year will take place.

William McK. Clayton is expected to talk on the telephone hearing which is scheduled to take place Monday morning. The telephone company wants to keep its present rates and the Public Utilities Commission next week will determine whether the rates are fair.

The membership drive of the associations, which begins November 21, will be discussed.

With the report of the Bureau of Education on the conditions in the schools here, made public, it is expected the federation will discuss this matter.

U. S. WORKERS ASK 30 DAYS' NOTICE

Unions' Organ Protests Summary Discharges of Hundreds in Civil Service.

That thirty days' notice of discharge, furlough, or placing on the inactive list should be allowed, over and above all leave pay coming to them, to all civil service employees who are not dismissed on charges, and that fifteen of the thirty days should be special leave to seek other work, is the position of the Federal Employees' Union, which in this morning in view of the recent discharge without notice of hundreds of Government employees.

"There is a strong and growing demand accentuated by recent wholesale removal without notice of employees in Washington, that the matter be pressed on the attention of departmental heads, and if necessary, carried to the President and Congress," this week's issue of the Federal Employee states.

The plea made by certain officials that the employees affected are on the temporary list, and therefore no notice is necessary, is answered by the union that "this position may be in accord with the letter of the law, but after all it is said, the Government is left in the unenviable position of dealing with employees on a distinct lower plane with regard to justice and fair treatment than that occupied by even the average private business establishment."

The thirty days' notice plan was adopted unanimously at the third annual convention of the National Federation of Federal Employees at the recent meeting in San Francisco.

NOTABLES RIDE IN CURTISS BIPLANE

Piloted by Bert Acosta, formerly director of flying and testing for the Aircraft Production Board, the palatial Curtiss eight-passenger biplane Eagle has arrived in Washington for a series of demonstrations on the practicability of aircraft designed especially for commercial purposes.

Otto L. Praeger, second assistant postmaster general, in charge of the aerial mail service, was the first Washingtonian to ride in the great machine. Others who made flights were:

Col. G. C. Hall, United States air service; W. B. Stratton, vice president of the Curtiss Aeroplane and Motor Corporation; Dr. J. G. Coffin, assistant director aeronautical research, Curtiss engineering corporation; the Misses F. Riley and Dorothy Woodard, H. C. Dickinson, E. W. Sparrow, S. R. Parsons, W. S. Jones, Dr. L. J. Briggs, R. H. Heald, Dr. H. L. Dryden, F. P. Upton, all members of the Bureau of Standards; Major F. S. Hooper, chief of the judge advocate general's office; Major C. Crittenden, of the munitions department; Lieut. A. L. Clark, Lieut. J. J. Ide, intelligence officer, Bureau of Construction and Repair, S. N. J.; Floyd Showalter, H. P. Kupper, J. J. Boyd, of the Central Automobile Company, of Baltimore, Md.; Curtiss distributors for Maryland; G. H. Bauer, secretary of Congressmen C. C. Kerne of Ohio, Miss Veron Kennel, E. H. Ballard, and W. D. Richardson, of the Curtiss Aeroplane and Motor Corporation; Mrs. E. H. Ballard, of New York city; Miss Eliza Scidmore, of Washington; Major Crockett and Newbold Noyes.

The plane will remain in Washington for some time, giving daily demonstrations at Bolling Field. Among the passengers scheduled to fly today are Benedict Crowell, assistant Secretary of War, and Gen. Charles T. Menoher, director of the air service.

TO PROTEST LOW WATER PRESSURE

The committee representing downtown property owners who are protesting against the low-pressure water supply furnished in the business district is expecting an audience with the District Commissioners early next week, when a formal protest will be made.

The committee, consisting of Col. R. N. Harper, Frank Hight, of the Willard hotel, and William A. Carlin, of the Harrington Hotel, is preparing data and statistics to present to the Commissioners in support of their request for increased pressure.

The water supply in the residential district is furnished with a 90-pound pressure, while in the business district only a pressure of forty-five pounds is obtainable. The discrimination, the committee declares, is costing business property owners more than \$1,500 a month.

The pressure is available if the Water Department officials can be prevailed upon to furnish it according to Mr. Carlin, who is an engineer. "I have learned that a 90-pound pressure is turned into the business district whenever there is a fire," said Mr. Carlin, "and surely if this is the case I see no reason why the business district cannot be furnished this pressure at all times."

District Commissioner Louis Brownlow, much improved after a ten days' rest at the home of Charles C. Foster, superintendent of Washington's penal institutions, at Occoquan, Va., has returned to the city. He resumed his duties as president of the Board of Commissioners yesterday.

Commissioner Brownlow was ill when he left Washington the first part of last week. His physician prescribed for him a rest, isolated from his work.

PRESIDENT TO BE ASKED FOR HALF-HOLIDAY

U. S. Workers Urge Executive to Decree Saturday Afternoons Off During Entire Year.

President Wilson will be asked to declare Saturday a half-holiday throughout the year in the District of Columbia. It was learned this morning that Attorney General Palmer has rendered an oral opinion to the effect that the President has authority to decree such a holiday by Executive order.

The Federal Employees' Union is redoubling its efforts in getting Saturday half-holidays for the entire year, and if the President refuses to act, a bill providing the relief sought for will be introduced in Congress and vigorously pushed, according to the union's plan.

Employer, Federal Employees' Union has been conducting a strenuous campaign to procure the year around half holiday, and from present indications hopes to meet with success.

Previous efforts have been made to present the case to President Wilson, but Secretary Tumulty informed the committee of employees that the pressure of important affairs prevented the President from considering the matter at that time.

It is understood that the President has expressed an unwillingness to issue the Executive order sought, and prefers to leave the decision to joint action by members of the Cabinet on account of objection on the part of certain Cabinet members.

WAR RISK BUREAU BANS ALL MIRRORS

Officials Move To End Primping—But Girls Can Still Buy 'Em.

Primping, modern fine art that it is, has been taken under an official ban at the War Risk Insurance Bureau.

"Yes, Florabelle, and the mirrors have been taken out of all the rest rooms."

"Well the nerve of some people. I suppose the next thing they'll do is ask us to sign a pledge against the use of cosmetics. It's a downright shame."

All of which exemplifies the way the demure little ladies at the War Risk Bureau are taking to the order which did away with all mirrors in the rest rooms. Bureau officials frowned on the primping, and as the surest means of ending it ordered the mirrors out.

Of course, everybody has taken to carrying their own unwillingness to obey the order. The girls have noticed an increased demand for those miniature suitcases with a facial reflector neatly enclosed in the lid of the box.

Perhaps the mirror is like the public drinking cup, and the action was taken for sanitary reasons, but the girls can't see it.

PATRONS ROB AND BEAT HACK DRIVER

John Washington, colored, thirty-nine years old, of 438 O street northwest, was taken from a train at the Washington, Baltimore and Annapolis railroad, at Fifteenth and H streets northwest, last night suffering from lacerations of the head. He told the police of the Ninth precinct that he had been held up and robbed of \$21 near Ardmore, Md.

Washington, who is a public hacker, claimed that he had been forced by two young men who ordered him to drive to Ardmore. When standing that suburb, he says, he was assaulted by the men and robbed.

Herbert Reden, 637 G street northeast, and Joseph Brown, 1363 F street northwest, were arrested by police of the Ninth precinct in connection with the affair. Both men deny having any part in the assault. They are being held for the Maryland authorities' action.

EXPERT WATCH REPAIRING. Warranted timepieces and valuable timepieces repaired and adjusted. Prompt, accurate and dependable service. O. D. HOLMES, 226 Colorado Bldg., N. W. Cor. 14th and G.

DOLL'S HOSPITAL. We've got the heads and parts to repair any and all COLUMBIA RECORDS & GRAMMOPHONES. LARSEN'S MUSIC, 470 7th Street N. W.

"Say It With Flowers" SEE THE DISPLAYS IN THE LOCAL SHOPS Washington's Flower Week Nov. 3 to 8

U. S. ARMY ALL-WOOL Blankets, \$6.00 EACH. ON SALE AT 814 E. ST. N. W.